

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 260

Introduced by Stuhr, 24; Beutler, 28; Brown, 6; Combs, 32;
Fischer, 43; Howard, 9; Hudkins, 21; Landis, 46;
McDonald, 41; Price, 26; Redfield, 12; Schimek, 27;
Thompson, 14

Read first time January 10, 2005

Committee: Judiciary

A BILL

- 1 FOR AN ACT relating to human rights; to create a task force; to
- 2 provide duties; and to declare an emergency.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. The Task Force on Trafficking in Persons is
2 created. For purposes of this section, trafficking means all acts
3 involved in the recruitment, abduction, transport, harboring,
4 transfer, sale, or receipt of persons, within national or across
5 international borders, through force, coercion, fraud, or deception
6 to place persons in situations of slavery or slavery-like
7 conditions, forced labor or services, such as prostitution or
8 sexual services, domestic servitude, bonded sweatshop labor, or
9 other debt bondage.

10 Sec. 2. (1) The Task Force on Trafficking in Persons
11 shall consist of the following members:

12 (a) The Attorney General or his or her designee;

13 (b) The Director of Health and Human Services or his or
14 her designee;

15 (c) The Commissioner of Labor or his or her designee;

16 (d) The chairperson of the Nebraska Commission on Law
17 Enforcement and Criminal Justice or his or her designee;

18 (e) Three members of the Legislature, or their designees,
19 appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council; and

20 (f) Nine members of the public appointed by the Governor
21 as follows:

22 (i) One representative of sexual assault crises services;

23 (ii) One representative of an organization that provides
24 civil legal services to low-income individuals;

25 (iii) One representative of a child advocacy
26 organization;

27 (iv) A county attorney or his or her designee;

28 (v) One representative of an organization that deals with

1 the behavioral health needs of women and children;

2 (vi) One representative of the law enforcement community;

3 (vii) One representative of an organization that
4 advocates on social justice and human rights issues;

5 (viii) One representative of an organization that deals
6 with refugees in the State of Nebraska; and

7 (ix) One representative who deals with homeland security
8 issues.

9 (2) A chairperson shall be appointed from the members by
10 the Executive Board of the Legislative Council.

11 Sec. 3. The Task Force on Trafficking in Persons shall:

12 (1) Collect and organize data on the nature and extent of
13 trafficking in persons in the state;

14 (2) Evaluate the progress of the state in preventing
15 trafficking, protecting and providing assistance to victims of
16 trafficking, and prosecuting persons engaged in trafficking;

17 (3) Identify available federal, state, and local programs
18 that provide services to victims of trafficking, including health
19 care, human services, housing, education, legal assistance, job
20 training or preparation, interpreting services, English as a second
21 language classes, voluntary repatriation, and victim's
22 compensation;

23 (4) Evaluate approaches to increase public awareness of
24 trafficking;

25 (5) Analyze existing state and criminal statutes for
26 their adequacy in addressing trafficking and, if such analysis
27 determines that those statutes are inadequate, recommend revisions
28 to those statutes or the enactment of new statutes that

1 specifically define and address trafficking;

2 (6) Consult with governmental and nongovernmental
3 organizations in developing recommendations to strengthen state and
4 local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims of
5 trafficking, and prosecute traffickers; and

6 (7) Hold three meetings open to the public, one in each
7 congressional district, to be called by the chairperson of the task
8 force.

9 Sec. 4. All state and local agencies shall cooperate
10 with the Task Force on Trafficking in Persons and provide such data
11 and other information as the task force may require in carrying out
12 its duties under this section.

13 Sec. 5. The Task Force on Trafficking in Persons shall
14 complete a written report of its findings and recommendations and
15 submit the report to the Legislature no later than December 31,
16 2005.

17 Sec. 6. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect
18 when passed and approved according to law.